YARRA HILLS SECONDARY COLLEGE

27 JULY 2016

A Fortnightly Bulletin

Issue No.11

KEY DATES

JULY

Thursday 28  Junior Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB
            ME & MB
Friday  29  Yr 9 & 10 Boys & Girls Eastern Zone Soccer
            MB
       29  Yr 9 & 10 Boys & Girls Eastern Zone Badminton
            MB
       29  Senior Boys Table Tennis Zone Finals
            MB

AUGUST

Monday  1  Term 3 Awards Assembly
        ME & MB
Tuesday 2  Senior & Intermediate Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB
         ME & MB
       2  Yr 9 OE Skiing to Lake Mountain
            MB
       2  VCE OE Mount St Gwinear Trip
            MB
       2  Yr 7 Boys Soccer Eastern Zone Finals
            MB
Wednesday 3  Production Rehearsal at ME PAC 1.15-5.30pm
            ME & MB
Thursday 4  Yr 10 Course Selection Interviews - no year 10 classes
       4  Yr 10 OE Skiing Lake Mountain
            MB
       4  Junior Band Rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm at MB
            ME & MB
Sunday  7  Production Rehearsal at ME PAC 10am-4pm
            ME & MB
Wednesday 10-12 Portsea 3 Day Music Camp
           ME & MB
       10  Production Rehearsal at ME PAC 1.15-5.30pm
            ME & MB

From the College Principal

2016 Debutante Ball

On Friday July 22, the Yarra Hills SC 2016 Debutante Ball was held at ‘The Grand – Wantirna’. My wife and I were proud to be the guests of honour and have each of the debutante couples present to us during the ceremony. The debutantes did us proud, with many complimentary comments from older and younger members of the supporting crowd. Following the presentation, the couples performed a fantastic display of choreographed dances, including the traditional ‘Singing in the Rain’ (complete with swirling umbrellas!). Congratulations to all involved and many thanks to all of those who helped arrange and organise the evening’s events.

Well done!
Yarra Hills SC
2016
Debutante Ball

The Grand – Wantirna
Ready to Reflect Conferences

On Tuesday July 26, Ready to Reflect – Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences were held at both campuses. These conferences are an important opportunity for parents to join with their children to carefully analyse and reflect on the Semester One Report. With guidance from key ‘mentor’ staff, each student is then able to develop future goals, short and long-term, to enable them to get the best out of their own educational opportunities and personal potential. We thank all parents who were able to join us on the day and look forward to your continued support as we join in partnership to educate your child for the future. Thanks also to those staff who helped arrange the day, as well as those who attended in their own time. It is much appreciated, thank you!

Darren Trippett
College Principal

From the Mooroolbark Campus Principal

The term keeps rolling on and we are already in Week 3! I would firstly like to thank all of the parents and students who attended our Mooroolbark Campus ‘Ready to Reflect’ interviews on Tuesday 26 July. It is really worthwhile to meet and have discussions, as well as heartening to see families invested in their child’s education, and in attendance. We hope that you have had an opportunity to discuss with your child how they can improve their learning for the second half of 2016.

Parking at Drop-off and Pick-up times

We continue to have concerns with parents parking in areas that are not designated parking. Could we please ask that you only park in designated parking zones, as it is both dangerous and inconvenient for other parents, staff and students who are walking to cars. Secondly, I would like to remind parents that the pedestrian access to Cambridge Road to the school (at the Bus Stop) is a private driveway. Please respect our neighbours by not parking in this area. Where possible we continue to suggest parking in streets away from the college and having your child walking to meet you, to ease congestion.

I want to make mention of some things that are happening on the Campus:

Pathways, Course Counselling and Subject Selection

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we had our senior information night, where pathways and study options for year 11 and 12 were discussed with students and families. On Thursday August 4, all year 10 students will have a one-on-one interview with a senior school staff member to discuss pathways and to finalise their year 11 & 12 selections for 2017. All students have been given a time and parents are more than welcome to attend on this day. No scheduled classes run for year 10 students. We ask that families prepare beforehand for this interview by looking through the Senior Handbook (on our website) and discussing and making informed selections.

Our year 8s and 9s will also be choosing electives for 2017 over the coming weeks and information will be coming home about the selection process.

School Production

I have been lucky enough to pop my head in occasionally to the rehearsals and watch the cast in full swing for the upcoming School Production of ‘For Home and Empire’. This is an original production developed by one of our members of staff. It is now only 3 weeks away, with Production beginning on Wednesday 17 August for 4 nights. We ask that parents and students support by booking tickets early and coming along.

The Inaugural Parents & Friends Association Shopping Tour

As has been advertised in the newsletter and on Compass, the Yarra Hills Parents & Friends Association are running a shopping tour on 17 September as a fundraiser for the school. Details are on the notice. We would love you to join and support the college.

Sport

Lastly congratulations must go to our interschool sporting teams. We continue to have fantastic involvement in sport, and success in getting through to Eastern Zone.

Greg Cowan
Mooroolbark Campus Principal
From the Mt Evelyn Campus Principal

Thank you to all the families who attended our Ready to Reflect session. There were so many valuable conversations had between students, parents and staff. It is one of the few sessions that focus solely on student learning and work habits. The focus this year was reading and everyone walked away with new strategies to improve reading. Families who were unable to attend are most welcome to contact the relevant Coordinator to arrange an interview.

Mt Evelyn Township Group Planning night was a huge hit!!!

Last Wednesday Yarra Hills hosted the annual Mt Evelyn Township Group planning night. The aim of this night is to bring together people to look at how we as a community can improve Mt Evelyn. There were people from all walks of life as well as many Shire counsellors in attendance. We were fortunate to listen to Andrew who is a descendant of the Wurrunjuri people who gave everyone a wonderful explanation of the origins of Acknowledgement of Country. Chad Foulkes was our facilitator who guided everyone’s ideas to collaboratively come together for an ultimate plan by the end of the night. It was an amazing night with so many fantastic ideas which many are committed to following through.

Three of our student leaders: Rhys McMillan, Keely and Tamsin Preston were brilliant ambassadors for Yarra Hills. They put forward some great ideas and certainly impressed the community of Mt Evelyn. I was so proud of them. Rhys, Keely and Tamsin really enjoyed the night and learned a great deal about being part of a community. We explored the idea of providing more resources from Yarra Hills for the Mt Evelyn community; all of which was warmly received.

Senior Campus Transition

Last week year 10 students were visited by Christina Shaw (Head of Teaching & Learning) and Debbie Deriboklou (Careers Leader) to expose them to the options available next year. It was a very informative talk and one that certainly prepared students for next year. Many students also attended the VCE information evening to find out further information.

Students reminded of their digital thumbprints

Last week we welcomed Optus’ free digital education program, Digital Thumbprint, to deliver a fun and interactive workshops tailored to the needs of specific year groups. Designed to empower and inform Australia’s young digital natives, the workshops taught students the advantages of having a positive online presence and armed them with the vital information they need to stay safe online. With diverse activities and discussions our year 7 and 8 students learnt about information security, terms and conditions and ensured their passwords were protected. They had great fun looking at the top 20 passwords that were easily broken into, and checking if their own passwords were secure. Our gaming students were very surprised at the notion that answering simple questions when installing apps or social media, lead to that information being brought by many businesses.

The year 9 and 10 students focused on the impact students actions with technology have both on themselves and others, including how to help friends who may be facing anti-social activity. Concepts covered include intention and impact, online identity and defending friends. Students looked at many case studies and examples of situations where social comments were viewed as national threats or the notion that people are more confident hiding behind a keyboard rather than confront issues face to face. They also looked at the impact of inappropriate photos and how potential employers could have access to these images.

Students had many interesting and valid questions, which the presenter had not thought about and was able to go and research the answers for future presentations. They clearly enjoyed the presentation judging by the discussions it provoked and everyone felt it was extremely beneficial for them. Thank you Nikky Waterson for organizing this great presentation.
How lucky are we?

Lately when walking around the school I have been noticing more and more beautiful parrots amongst the trees. I was blown away when students pointed out to me two Tawny Frog Mouth Owls that were asleep just a short distance from a play area. They weren’t fussed with the noise of lunchtime but just beautiful to see. How lucky are we to have such fantastic wildlife at our doorstep!

Robyn Dew
Mt Evelyn Campus Principal

Year 8 Softballers in Training

The Yarra Hills Mooroolbark year 8 girls softball team have been fortunate in obtaining some expert coaching from the Ejays Softball Club in the lead up to their Eastern Zone Competitions that will be conducted in November. Their training will be held each Monday lunchtime as part of the Physical Education and Sport Community Links Project, where community organisations are being encouraged to get involved in our sporting teams and also to help encourage some of the students to sign up and to play their successful sports on a weekly basis.

We are also hoping to create more links in the sports of soccer where we have won all 4 boys titles this year and also in badminton where Yarra Hills has won all 8 titles - 4 Boys and 4 girls. Our school to date has won 15 sporting titles for the year and it would be great to get some of these student participants to embrace the sports where they are having great success and for them to join a community club to foster their interests.

If any year 7 female students are interested in also joining in with the Softball training they should see Mr McAllister. Sign up details for the Ejays Softball Club are detailed below.

Murray McAllister
Australian Youth Band Hong Kong Tour

Three weeks ago we were fortunate enough to tour to Hong Kong with the Australian Youth Band, directed by Richard O'Toole, our own Instrumental Music Director. After a long period of intense practice and preparation, the tour was an excellent cultural and musical experience that really illuminated the possibilities that playing a musical instrument affords. It was amazing being able to tour with such a talented group of musicians – this being the fifth or sixth international tour for some members of the band!

We were in Hong Kong for eight days with an ensemble of 45 players of brass, woodwind and percussion. During the tour, we had five performances, including Ocean Park - Hong Kong’s major theme park, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Stanley Plaza - a famous shopping and market district in Hong Kong, and our most impressive performance, at Festival Walk Shopping Centre. This performance involved a flash mob marching display, followed by a sit-down performance, where crowds were leaning over the railings of each of the seven levels of the shopping centre to watch us perform. Many of our local Chinese audience were even singing along as we played local Chinese well-known classics - an unforgettable experience.

Whilst in Hong Kong, we also had the opportunity to do some sightseeing; visiting local monasteries, markets, the iconic Victoria Hong Kong, where Jackie Chan resides! and immerse ourselves in the customs of Hong Kong.

We acknowledge that we would not have had such a phenomenal opportunity if it weren't for our involvement in the Yarra Hills Music Program, from which we were able to audition to be a part of the Australian Youth Band. So, students at the College, if performing with an extraordinarily talented group of musicians on an international tour appeals to you, practise hard, because you could join us on our next tour!

Annabelle Smith and Jessica Foley

Yarra Hills Secondary College 2016 Production

For Home and Empire

Wednesday August 17th, Thursday August 18th
Friday August 19th, Saturday August 20th

Mt Evelyn Performing Arts Centre
Burdap Dve, Mt Evelyn ................. 8 pm

www.trybooking.com/209006
Adults $17.60 / Stud/Conc $11.60 / Family $46.40
BOOK WEEK IS COMING!
Part 2

Here is the second part of the shortlisted books for Older Readers in the Children's Book of the Year Awards. This year the books cover a lot of themes, including racial tolerance, civil rights, family secrets, girl power, love, relationships, grief and friendship. It has been interesting to read the reviews from my fellow Teacher-Librarians about which ones they love and dislike. So what books represent “Australia! Story Country”? Watch out for the book trailers on these books – coming to Moodle soon! All of these books will be available at both campus Libraries.

FINAL THREE SHORTLISTED BOOKS FOR OLDER READERS 2016

Cloudwish - Fiona Wood
For Van Vu Phan, fantasies fell into two categories: nourishing, or pointless. Daydreaming about Billy Gardiner, for example? Pointless. It always left her feeling sick, as though she’d eaten too much sugar. But when she attracts the attention of Billy Gardiner, she finds herself in an unwelcome spotlight.

Inbetween Days - Vikki Wakefield
At seventeen, Jacklin Bates is all grown up. She’s dropped out of school. She’s living with her runaway sister, Trudy, and she’s in secret, obsessive love with Luke, who doesn’t love her back. She’s stuck in Mobius; a dying town with the macabre suicide forest its only attraction, stuck working in roadhouse & babysitting her boss’s demented father.

A Single Stone – Meg McKinlay
Jena is the leader of the line - strong, respected, reliable. And - as all girls must be - small; her years of training have seen to that. It is the way of things. And so a girls must wrap her limbs, lie still, deny herself a second bowl of stew. Or a slice. But what happens when one tiny discovery makes Jena question everything she has ever known? What happens when moving a single stone changes everything?

May the books be with you, xo.

Ms. Alison Hay
Teacher-Librarian
Want to know what you can do to raise a resilient teenager?

FREE online parenting program empowering parents to make sense of adolescence and parent their teenager with confidence.

As children become teenagers, it can be hard for parents to know the best way to stay connected with their child. Partners in Parenting is a new online parenting program that has been shown to help improve parent-child communication and reduce family conflict. Through interactive online activities, parents can develop skills in emotional intelligence, supporting their teenager through difficulties they face and maintaining a close relationship with their teen. This program was developed by researchers at Monash University and the University of Melbourne, and is based on Parenting Guidelines that were published in partnership with beyondblue and have been accessed and found helpful by thousands of parents worldwide.

Researchers are currently evaluating the longer-term benefits of the program by offering parents in Australia the opportunity to try it for free. If you are a parent or guardian of a child aged 12 to 15, you may be eligible to participate. Participation will take a few hours of yours and your child’s time over 12 months. Both you and your child will be reimbursed for your time.

Find out more or register at www.partnersinparenting.net.au or contact the researchers at med-partnersinparenting@monash.edu or on (03) 9905 1250

MONASH University
Yarra Hills Secondary College
Parents and Friends Association
Inaugural Shopping Tour

When: 17th September 2016
Cost: Adult - $52.00  Child under 16 - $26.00
Payment: Payment can be made:
- In person at the either Campus General Office
- By phoning the Campus General Office and paying with Credit Card or
- Sending in the Credit Card cut-off below

Where: Meet at Mt Evelyn Campus 7.30am / Mooroolbark Campus 7.45am & Return 6.30pm.
Bring: Family/ Friends/ Neighbours/ Teachers/ Principals/ Teenagers
Note: The price also includes a 2 course meal at a Bistro. Please let us know if you need varied special dietary requirements!

Proposed places we will be going:
- Bambis - Homeware and giftware
- Natlo - Cosmetics and gifts
- Bonds - Clothing
- Candy Stripes – Children’s designer-wear
- Toy Networks - Toys
- Oz Luggage - Luggage, passport holders, wallets, handbags, overnight bags
- Ross’s Nuts - Nuts, Lollies, dried fruit, Gluten Free, NZ/ English products
- Sports Direct - Sportswear, shoes
- Christmas Shop - All things ‘Christmas’
- Diana Ferrari - Shoes/boots and ladies clothing.
- Linen Factory - Manchester

If you need any more information please contact our PFA representatives:
- Sheryn Holloway: 0409143565
- Karen Dethomas: 0409009228

YARRA HILLS SECONDARY COLLEGE
PFA SHOPPING TOUR - CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FORM

Name: ___________________________ Transaction Date: ____________ Phone: ___________________

Being For: PFA Shopping Tour Number of People attending: _______ Amount: $ _______

Special Dietary Requirements: YES / NO

MT Evelyn Campus ☐ Mooroolbark Campus ☐

If YES please list: _____________________________________________________________

CARD DETAILS: Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐

Name of Cardholder (As appears on Card): ___________________________ Expiry Date: _____ / _____ CCV: ________

Signature: __________________________

Card Number: ___________________________